



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 1171

LCO No. 4271

04271_____CE_

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established the
2 Higher Education Technology Transfer Policy Board within the
3 Department of Economic and Community Development. The board
4 shall consist of thirteen members, ten of whom are voting members
5 and three of whom are ex-officio nonvoting members.

6 (b) (1) The voting members of the board shall be appointed as
7 follows:

8 (A) Four appointed by the Governor, (i) one of whom shall be a
9 faculty or staff member of The University of Connecticut involved in
10 technology transfer, (ii) two of whom shall be faculty or staff members
11 of a private university or college in the state with a major research
12 facility and who are involved in technology transfer, and (iii) one of
13 whom shall represent a business in the state that has a research
14 collaboration relationship with The University of Connecticut or a
15 private university or college in the state with a major research facility;

16 (B) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
17 who shall be an employee of an economic development entity in the
18 state with experience with economic and industry cluster initiatives;

19 (C) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
20 shall be an economic development coordinator from a city in the state
21 with a private university or college with a major research facility;

22 (D) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
23 Representatives, who shall be a faculty or staff member of the school of
24 business administration at The University of Connecticut;

25 (E) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a
26 member of the Connecticut Technology Council;

27 (F) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
28 Representatives, who shall be a member of an association representing
29 business incubators in the state; and

30 (G) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is an
31 entrepreneur with experience developing businesses in the state.

32 (2) The ex-officio nonvoting members shall consist of the following
33 members, or their designees: The Commissioners of Higher Education
34 and Economic and Community Development and the chairperson of
35 the board of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated.

36 (3) The voting members shall serve for a term of four years. The
37 members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall,
38 within the limits of available funds, be reimbursed for expenses
39 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

40 (4) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the board from
41 among its voting members. The board may create other positions it
42 deems necessary and may fill such positions from among its members.
43 The powers of the board shall be vested in and exercised by not less
44 than five members of the board. Five members of the board shall

45 constitute a quorum. The board may solicit and receive funds from any
46 public or private sources to carry out its activities.

47 (c) The Higher Education Technology Transfer Policy Board shall:

48 (1) Develop and implement a plan to review the status of the state
49 economy and determine (A) which business or technology sectors
50 would be the most beneficial for the promotion of long-term job
51 creation and economic growth, and (B) whether The University of
52 Connecticut and any private college or university with a major
53 research facility having representation on the board have adequate
54 faculty to prepare students for jobs in such business or technology
55 sectors;

56 (2) Develop a method to review the strengths and weaknesses of
57 any technology transfer policy adopted by The University of
58 Connecticut and any private college or university with a major
59 research facility having representation on the board, and utilize such
60 method to make recommendations to said universities or colleges for
61 ways to improve such policies;

62 (3) Develop and implement a plan for such universities or colleges
63 to pursue through negotiation research collaboration with businesses
64 and industries in the state for technology developed by such
65 universities or colleges in exchange for the license or patent rights to
66 such technology; and

67 (4) Develop and implement a plan to provide The University of
68 Connecticut and any private college or university with a major
69 research facility with support for any negotiation pursuant to
70 subdivision (3) of this subsection.

71 (d) The board may request other state agencies, including, but not
72 limited to, the Departments of Higher Education, Economic and
73 Community Development and Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated,
74 to provide information, reports and other assistance in carrying out its

75 duties.

76 (e) On or before January 1, 2012, and annually thereafter, the
 77 chairperson of the board shall submit a report, in accordance with the
 78 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor and
 79 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
 80 cognizance of matters relating to commerce. Such report shall indicate
 81 any progress made by the board in (1) determining which business or
 82 technology sectors would be the most beneficial for the promotion of
 83 long-term job creation and economic growth and whether there is
 84 adequate faculty at such universities or colleges to prepare students for
 85 jobs in such sectors, (2) reviewing the technology transfer policy of The
 86 University of Connecticut or any private university or college with a
 87 major research facility with representation on the board, (3)
 88 developing a plan for such universities or colleges to pursue research
 89 collaboration in exchange for the right to patent or license developed
 90 technology, and (4) developing a plan to support negotiations for
 91 research collaboration. The board shall also make recommendations
 92 for legislative action needed to assist the board in achieving its
 93 directive.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
-----------	---------------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a board to identify the business and technology sectors that would lead to job creation and economic growth in the state, determine whether certain universities are adequately staffed to educate students for jobs in such sectors, review certain university technology transfer policies, promote research collaboration with business and industry in exchange for patent and license rights to developed technology, and create a method to support the negotiation for research collaboration.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]